



Adapted from Valarie Kaur, "Becoming a Sage Warrior," Daily Meditations, October 28, 2024, Center for Action and Contemplation, video, 38:13.

Sikh activist and author Valarie Kaur places love at the center of our ability to bring about wholeness in a divided world: What does it mean to return to a kind of wholeness where the way that we love informs what we do in the world and what we do in the world deepens our love?....

What I want to remind us all is that as much as we must fight for our convictions and stand for what is just, remember that all those people who vote against you are not disappearing after Election Day or Inauguration Day. We have to find a way to live together still. The only way we will birth a multiracial democracy is if we hold up a vision of a future that leaves no one behind, not even our worst opponents. So you might be in the position to have that conversation with the neighbor down the street or the uncle at the family table. [Philosopher] Hannah Arendt says isolation breeds radicalization. You might be the person to puncture the [social media] algorithm, to sit in spaces of deep listening—and deep listening is an act of surrender. You risk being changed by what you hear.

We don't see those spaces modeled in the world around us. We have to create them in the spaces between us. Often-times it means listening over time, being in relationship. Human beings mirror each other, so if you come with daggers out, they'll come out daggers out. If you come out and you really wonder "Why?," beneath the slogans and the soundbites, you'll hear the person's story and you'll see their wound. You'll see their grief. You'll see their rage. You might not agree with it, but I've come to understand that there are no such things as monsters in this world, only human beings who are wounded, who act out of their fear or insecurity or rage. That does not make them any less dangerous, but once we see their wound, they lose their power over us. And we get to ask ourselves: How do we want to take that information into what we do next?

I invite people to take their wounds [and] their opponents' wounds into spaces of re-imagination—of imagining an outcome, a policy, a relationship that leaves no one outside of our circle of care, not even "them." This kind of labor, this kind of revolutionary love, it's not the sacrifice of an individual, it's a practice of a community.

When we invite people to practice revolutionary love, we always ask, "What is your role in this season of your life?".... Whatever you choose, it can be a vital practice of love, of revolutionary love. And if all of us are playing our role—not more, not less—then together we're creating the culture shift that we so desperately need.

Gift Opportunity



**Celebrating a Birthday or Anniversary?
Contribute to the St. Paul's UCC Scholarship Fund!**

**Place your contribution in an envelope labelled Scholarship Fund
or write it in the Memo line of your check.**

Youths interested in attending Dunkirk Camp this summer

should sign-up on the Christian Ed bulletin board by:

March 30th and register on-line by April 15th to take advantage of the "early bird" discount and church-funded scholarship.

See Tom Baker for details.



Pray for our Shut-ins



Bev West

Larry Taylor

...and others who are physically unable to join us.
Why not call or visit, to let them know they are missed?

"The three most important things to have are Faith, Love and Hope. But the greatest of them is

Love

1 Corinthians 13:13

REMINDER—Mark this date in your calendar

Easter Dawn Sunrise Service

April 20, 2025—6 am

February 2nd following worship

Join the Christian Education campers
Soup Lunch Fundraiser
Benefit Dunkirk Campers

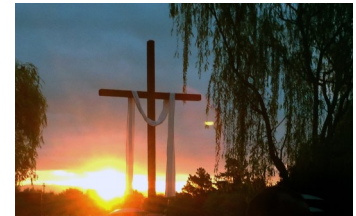


Attica Food Link Distribution:
Food Pantry location, North Walnut St.

February 5, 2025
10am-12pm

Bring your own bags
1st come 1st served.

Sponsored by Attica Food Pantry



Bible Studies

Dig Deeper with Friends



Bible Study groups will meet in our respective areas.

If you have additional questions or Concerns, contact the Convener:

Lisa Knerr- Mon. evening, 6:30 pm
Marilyn Wilson- Wed. morning, 10 am

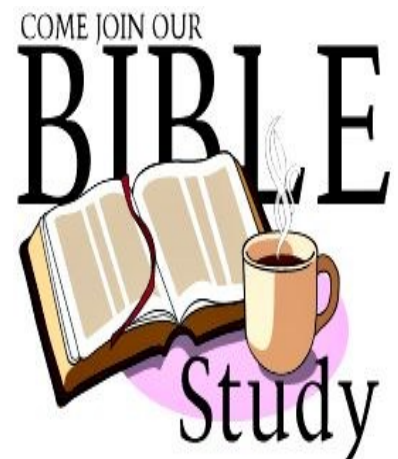
Sunday Bible readings: The first reading is *italicized*; the message text is **bold**.

Feb 2
Psalm 71:1-16

Feb 9
Luke 5:1-11
Isaiah 6:1-8

Feb 16
Luke 6:17-26
Psalm 1

Feb 23
Luke 6:27-28,32-38
Psalm 37:1-8





PANCAKE BREAKFAST

March 9, 2025

8 am to 12 Noon

Pancake Breakfast with sausage, fruit, faschnauts, juice and coffee

Christian Education Basket Raffle

In conjunction with Pancake Breakfast

Donations of completed baskets can be placed on the shelf
in the back of church.



Souper Bowl of Caring- February 9th

Our youth will collect your “noisy money” (coins) on Super Bowl Sunday.

All money collected will support the Attica Food Pantry.

The total will be reported to the Souper Bowl website.

You may also donate food items.

Thank you for supporting our youth and Food Pantry
on Super Bowl Sunday!



Congratulations to Emily Peters on her Section V Fall Athletics Scholarship win !



Game Day Cheerleading: Emily Peters, Attica

Emily has been participating in the sport of Cheerleading for 11 years! She also participates in winter Competitive Cheer. Emily shares that some of her highlights from this fall season are “competing and bus rides with her team”. After high school, Emily plans to attend college to study Recreation and Tourism Management. Emily states the one word that best describes her is “passionate”.

Annual Meeting Minutes- January 19, 2025

Pastor Laurie led us in prayer.

President Mary West called meeting to order @ 10:42- quorum of 38 members was established.

MMSC by Ruth Hopfinger to accept the agenda and Jennifer Eddy. All were in favor.

MMSC by Susan McPherson to accept the minutes from January 21, 2024 and semiannual minutes from July 7, 2024 and Ruth Hopfinger. All in favor.

Treasurer report was reviewed. MMSC by Chris Mahoney to accept minutes and Ruth Hopfinger. All in favor. ed. Committee reports were reviewed. Chris Mahoney stated from Memorial Committee that the St. Paul's scholarship fund is dependent on donations. She also mentioned the Sauerkraut supper tickets were not an accurate count and stated the hard work done by the take out crew. Tom Baker stated correction in Christian Education report that 7 children were sent to camp. Bev Myers praised the Looking Back report and suggested mention of Mitten Tree giving be included next year. She also questioned the Membership report and requested accurate number be in next report. Flo Nolan questioned the expense from IT report. Danny Neary stated the purchase was for new cords for computer. MMSC by Bev Myers to accept committee reports and Christine Kipfer. All in favor,

Old Business - None

New Business:

2025 Proposed Budget was presented. No questions from congregation. MMSC by Christine Kipfer to accept 2025 budget and Lisa Neary. All in favor.

Nominating Committee Report:

Deacons- Lisa Knerr, Ruth Hopfinger, Lynn Jacoby; Trustees- Jeff Peters, Roy Ticen;

Christian Education- Becki Peters, Tom Baker; Memorial Committee- Marilyn Wilson;

Pastoral Relations- Bev Myers; Investment Committee- Joanne Ripstein and Local Mission- Marie Lowe

MMSC by Chris Mahoney to accept the nominating committee report and by Laurie Bellucci. All in favor.

Jeff Peters reviewed church safety policies. There are 7 fire extinguishers in the building, an AED, 2 First aid kits and 2 Bleed kits. Jeff recommended purchase of 2 additional fire extinguishers and 2 smoke detectors. Reminded congregation smoke detectors are not hard wired and 911 will need to be called in case of emergency.

Newsletter option for electronic delivery was raised. Sign up sheet will be available for anyone who wishes to opt in for electronic option.

Easter Sunrise service will be planned at the park on April 20, 2025. More details will follow.

MMSC by Chris Mahoney to close nominations and accept the slate of officers and Laurie Bellucci. All in favor.

Marie Lowe read the minutes of this annual meeting.

MMSC by Chris Mahoney to accept the minutes as read and Ruth Hopfinger. All in favor.

President Mary West thanked the outgoing members. Council to meet immediately after meeting to elect new officers.

MMSC by Christine Kipfer to adjourn the meeting and Jennifer Eddy. All in favor.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m. with the Lord's Prayer said by all.

Respectfully submitted

Marie Lowe

Council Secretary

CHURCH COUNCIL

Council Meeting Minutes December 17, 2024

Meeting was called to order @6:33 pm by President
Mary West
Pastor Laurie led us in prayer
Acceptance of Agenda- MMSC Justin Kipfer, Marie Lowe
Acceptance of November minutes-MMSC Laurie Bellucci, Lorraine Wolf

Susan McPherson presented 2025 budget for review-
discussion by council regarding salaries, health insurance and membership fees.

Council discussed opt-in online newsletter to decrease printing and mailing costs. Membership numbers will be corrected before next report to UCC.

REPORTS:

Deacons- see report
Trustees- see report
Treasurer- see report
Christian Education- planning birthday party for Jesus
after play.
Pastor- will be on vacation after Christmas Eve service.
Has been accepted to new term on Church of Ministry.
MMSC for reports- Laurie Bellucci, David Williman

OLD BUSINESS:

Winterfest- profit of \$137 (free will offering)
Will do in 2025

2025 Committee nominations-

Deacons- Ruth Hopfinger, Lisa Knerr, Lynn Jacoby
Trustees-Jeff Peters, Roy Ticen,
Christian Education- Becki Peters
Pastoral Relations- Beverly Myers,
Local Missions- Marie Lowe,
Memorial Committee- Marilyn Wilson,
Investment- Joanne Ripstein.

NEW BUSINESS:

John Brandon suggested explaining offering use to children. Pastor Laurie will have children place offering on Lord's Table .

Pancake breakfast will be March 9th

Sauerkraut supper profit \$3342

Candlelight Service- \$1900

Adjourned @8pm with Lord's Prayer

Next meeting - organizational meeting January 19th after
annual meeting.

Respectfully submitted
Marie Lowe

February- American Heart Month.



Take this opportunity to check out your heart health- get a physical, check your cholesterol levels, decrease salt intake, get a baseline EKG if over 40, slowly increase activity, quit smoking and get adequate rest. Take a CPR class. Wear red on the 7th to draw attention to women's heart health. Learn the warning signs of heart attack- pain in shoulder blades, arm, chest, jaw and/or upper abdomen, dizziness, clammy skin, cold sweat, nausea/ indigestion, shortness of breath or feeling of impending doom. Call 911 and get checked out at the nearest emergency room.

February is also Wise Health Consumer month. Reevaluate your health care plan to make sure you are covered for all preventative screenings and vaccinations. Make a list of questions/concerns for your health care provider.

Children's Dental health is in February. Make sure your kids/ grandkids have routine dental check-ups. Stress the importance of regular, proper brushing and flossing. Try to limit sweets and sugary foods and drinks.

Low vision is a concern. Address in February this need for routine vision screenings.

The 17th is Random Acts of Kindness day. Use this day to do something nice for someone throughout the day. A simple act will brighten that person's day and yours.

Remember to stay safe, eat healthy, get adequate sleep, exercise and stay socially involved.



Basket Raffle

Christian Education will host a basket raffle in conjunction with the church's annual Pancake Breakfast to help fund scholarships for our Dunkirk campers next summer.

Although wrapped, themed baskets are preferred, donations of any NEW items would be greatly appreciated.

Please leave donated baskets in the back of the narthex by Sunday March 2nd.



FEBRUARY 2025



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 Worship and Communion 10 am Campers Soup	3 Bible Study 6:30 pm	4	5 Bible Study 10 am Food Link	6 Chancel Choir 6:30 pm	7	8
9 Worship 10 am <i>Justin Kipfer</i> <i>Danielle Harney</i>	10 Bible Study 6:30 pm	11	12 Bible Study 10 am	13 Sisters In Faith 5:00 pm Chancel Choir 6:30 pm	14 <i>happy Valentine's day</i> <i>Susan & Dave</i>	15
16 Worship 10 am Newsletter Dead-line	17 Bible Study 6:30 pm	18 Deacons/Trustees/ Council 6:30/7pm	19 Bible Study 10 am <i>Dylan Kipfer</i>	20 Chancel Choir 6:30 pm	21	22
23 Worship 10 am Pastoral Relations meeting	24 Bible Study 6:30 pm	25 <i>Flo Nolan</i>	26 Bible Study 10 am	27 Chancel Choir 6:30 pm	28	

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
11 Washington Street
Attica, NY 14011

SP The Spirit

of St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Village of Attica

February
2025

St. Paul's UCC, 11 Washington Street

Just around the corner, first block down from Main Street.

Join us for Sunday Worship at 10:00 am

Sunday School for children K-7th Grade - Nursery always open!

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome at St. Paul's."

Reverend Lauran Heidenreich

Call the church at (585-591-2705), stpaulunited@verizon.net or pastorucc@verizon.net

Website: atticaucc.org

March Newsletter Deadline
February 16th

Please make sure all newsletter submissions are in by this date. Place in the pink folder on the office window or e-mail to:
stpaulunited@verizon.net